



OPA 2019 Guard and Reserve Survey Administration

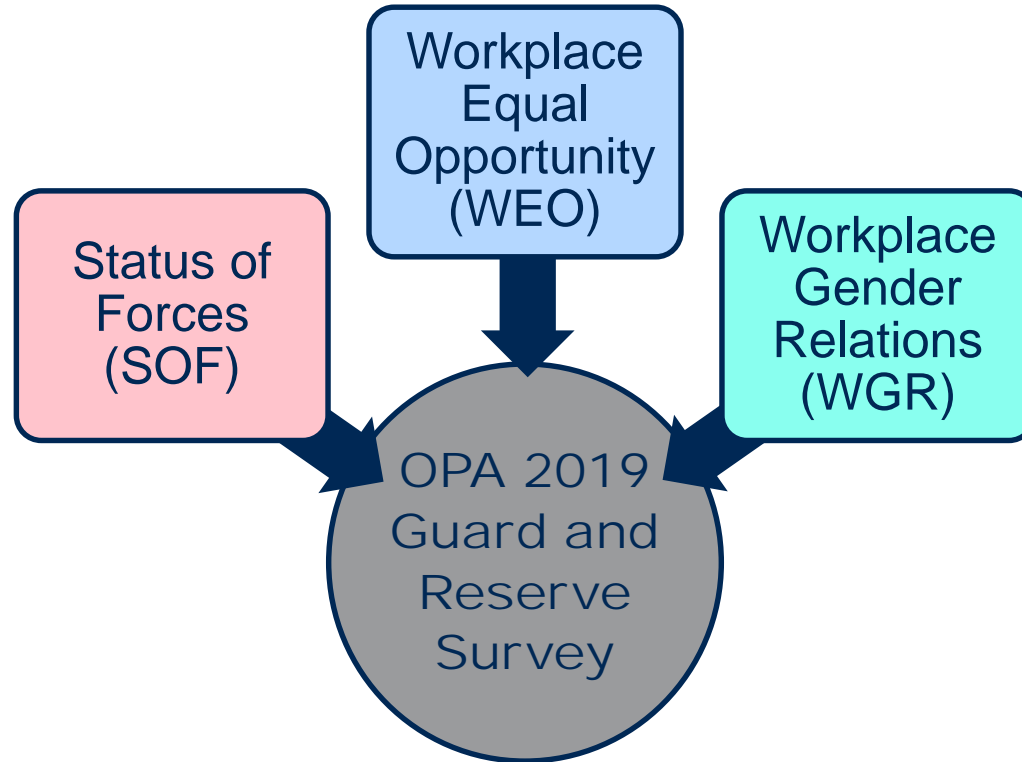
Presentation for DACOWITS

December 5, 2019

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- **Rape Myth Acceptance Scale**
 - Prior research
 - Current application

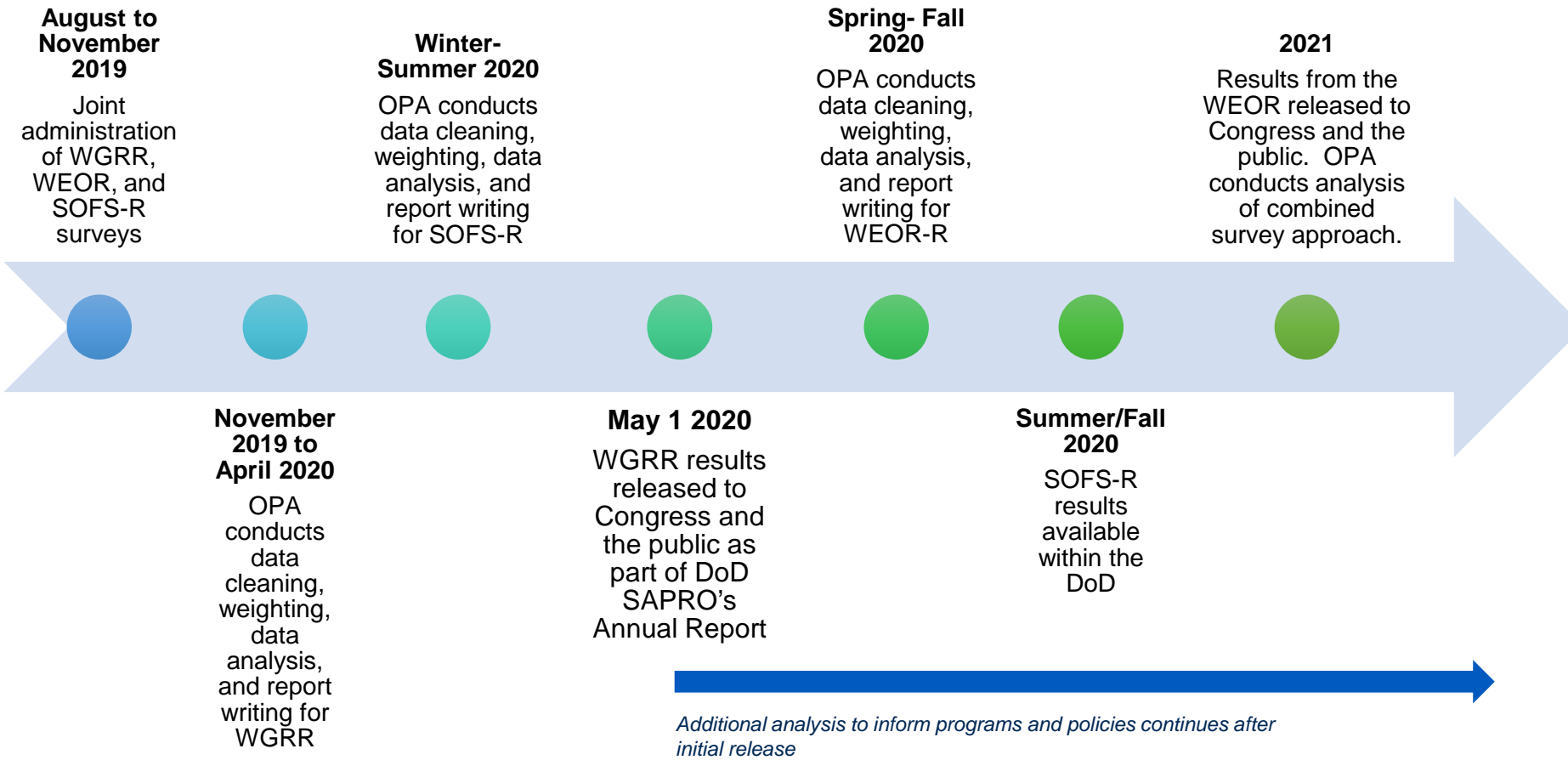
2019 GUARD AND RESERVE SURVEY ADMINISTRATION



SURVEY BACKGROUND

- **Three Congressionally-mandated surveys of the Guard and Reserve were scheduled for 2019**
 - Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of the Reserve Component (2019 WGRR)
 - Administered biennially per Title 10 U.S. Code Section 481; NDAA Fiscal Year 2013 Section 570
 - Past surveys of this population were conducted by OPA in 2004, 2008, 2012, 2015, and 2017.
 - Alternates with the Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of the Active Component (WGRA)
 - Workplace and Equal Opportunity Survey of the Reserve Component (2019 WEOR)
 - Administered quadrennially per 10 U.S.C. 481(a)(2)(B)
 - Past surveys of this population were conducted by OPA in 2009, 2013, and 2015.
 - Alternates with the Workplace and Equal Opportunity Survey of the Active Component (WEOA)
 - Status of Forces Survey of the Reserve Component (2019 SOFR)
 - Administered annually
 - Includes Congressionally mandated content on financial readiness
 - The Status of Forces Survey of the Active Component (SOFA) is also administered annually
- **To reduce survey burden, OPA combined all three surveys into a single survey administration comprised of 3 separate survey modules**
 - This was a pilot of a combined survey approach. Follow-on analyses will assess the impact and effectiveness of combining surveys.
- **The survey was a census of all Reserve and Guard members (below flag rank)**
 - Each member was invited to participate in one *and only one* of the three modules

TIMELINE



STATISTICAL METHODOLOGY

- **OPA’s survey methodology meets industry standards used by government statistical agencies (e.g., Census Bureau) and private survey and polling organizations. We follow best practices promoted by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).**
 - AAPOR’s “Best Practices” state that, “virtually all surveys taken seriously by social scientists, policy makers, and the informed media use some form of random or probability sampling, the methods of which are well grounded in statistical theory and the theory of probability”
- **OPA used scientific sampling techniques to ensure representative samples for each of the 3 survey modules**
- **Invitations were sent via postal notification and email(s) to military email addresses**
 - SOFR and WEOR administered via web-only
 - WGRR administered via web with a paper option
- **Response rates:**
 - WGRR = 14.4% weighted
 - SOFR and WEOR still pending
- **OPA is using scientific weighting techniques to weight the survey data, adjusting for nonresponse**
- **All estimates will be representative and generalizable to the population of interest**

WORKPLACE AND GENDER RELATIONS SURVEY CONTENT

- **The WGR surveys are the Department's official source for estimating the past-year prevalence of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and gender discrimination**
- **In addition to prevalence, the survey measures characteristics and associated features of any unwanted behaviors experienced within the past 12 months**
 - Alleged offender characteristics, including relationship to the offender(s), gender of the offender(s), rank of the offender(s)
 - Where and when the event(s) occurred
 - Situational features including alcohol involvement, hazing/bullying, stalking and/or harassment pre and/or post- event
- **Information about reporting is also captured**
 - Reasons for reporting (or not reporting)
 - Negative outcomes including retaliation
 - Use of and satisfaction with resources

WORKPLACE AND GENDER RELATIONS SURVEY CONTENT, CONTINUED

- **In order to inform prevention and response efforts, climate and cultural factors that are associated with risk for unwanted behaviors, and factors that impact reporting, are also measured**
 - Climate for Sexual Harassment
 - Responsibility and Intervention
 - Workplace Hostility
 - Attitudes toward Reporting of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment
- **For the first time, the 2019 WGRR included two validated scientific scales in order to better understand factors that may impact prevalence and reporting of sexual assault in the Military**
 - Ambivalent Sexism
 - Rape Myth Acceptance

THE AMBIVALENT SEXISM INVENTORY (ASI)

- **Constructed by Peter Glick & Susan T. Fiske in 1996.**
- **Unique feature of the ASI is that it encompasses two forms of sexism:**
 1. Benevolent Sexism: a set of stereotypical attitudes toward women that are positive in tone (for the perceiver) & also tend to elicit behaviors typically categorized as prosocial (e.g., helping) or intimacy seeking.

Examples:
“Women should be cherished and protected by men”.
“Women have a superior moral sensibility”.
 2. Hostile Sexism: those aspects of sexism that fit the classic definition of prejudice.

Examples:
“Women exaggerate problems they have at work”.
“When women lose to men in a fair competition, they typically complain about being discriminated against.”

IMPLICATIONS OF AMBIVALENT SEXISM FROM PRIOR RESEARCH

- Hostile sexism may be related to verbal aggression and sexual coercion perpetration (Forbes et al., 2004; Forbes & Adams-Curtis, 2001).
- Hostile sexism may be related to the prevalence of sexual harassment in the workplace (Belgany & Milburn, 2002).
- Hostile sexism may be related to rape proclivity (Masser et al., 2006).
- Women, in comparison to men, may reject hostile sexism but accept benevolent sexism as much as or more than men (Glick et al., 2000).
- Men who endorse benevolently sexist attitudes may be less likely to commit sexual violence (Allen et al., 2008).

APPLICATION OF THE ASI

- **The 2019 WGRR employs a validated, shortened version (12 questions) of the full scale.**
- **Potential research questions:**
 1. To what extent are hostile or benevolent sexism prevalent in the military?
 2. How do these sexist beliefs differ based on service member characteristics (e.g., gender, age, paygrade, MOS)?
 3. To what extent do sexist beliefs influence victim willingness to report their assault to military authorities?
 4. To what extent is service member willingness to engage in bystander intervention moderated by sexist beliefs?

ILLINOIS RAPE MYTH ACCEPTANCE SCALE (IRMAS)

- **Constructed by Kimberly Lonsway & Louise Fitzgerald in 1994, among the most utilized scales to measure the extent of rape myth acceptance.**
- **Rape Myth Acceptance: “attitudes and beliefs that are generally false but are widely and persistently held, and that serve to deny and justify male sexual aggression against women”.**

Examples:

“If a woman is raped while she is drunk, she is at least somewhat responsible for letting things get out of control”.

“If a woman doesn’t physically fight back, you can’t really say that it was rape”.

IMPLICATIONS OF RAPE MYTH ACCEPTANCE FROM PRIOR RESEARCH

- Acceptance of rape myths may be negatively related to willingness to intervene (McMahon, 2010).
- Feedback about a high-level of rape myth acceptance in their peer group, may increase rape proclivity among men (Bohner et al., 2006).
- Rape myth acceptance may differentiate non-perpetrators from those who go on to engage in sexual violence (Yapp & Quayle, 2018).
- May also have implications for victim willingness to report and the responses/resources provided to victims (Frese et al., 2004).

APPLICATION OF THE IRMAS

- **The 2019 WGRR employs a validated, shortened version (20 questions) of the full scale.**
- **Potential research questions:**
 1. To what extent is rape myth acceptance prevalent in the military?
 2. How do these beliefs differ based on service member characteristics (e.g., gender, age, paygrade, MOS)?
 3. To what extent does rape myth acceptance influence victim labeling of their experiences as sexual assault?
 4. To what extent does rape myth acceptance influence victim willingness to report their assault to military authorities?
 5. To what extent is service member willingness to engage in bystander intervention moderated by rape myth acceptance?

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- **OPA Gender Relations Research**

https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dwp/dwp_surveys.jsp

<https://www.sapr.mil/research>

- **Contact us:**

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Back-Up

AMBIVALENT SEXISM ITEMS

- **Items are rated using the following scale: Strongly agree, somewhat agree, slightly agree, slightly disagree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree**
 - *Many women have a quality of purity that few men possess*
 - *Women should be cherished and protected by men*
 - *Women seek to gain power by getting control over men*
 - *Every man ought to have a woman whom he adores*
 - *Men are incomplete without women*
 - *Women exaggerate problems they have at work*
 - *Once a woman gets a man to commit to her, she usually tries to put him on a tight leash*
 - *When women lose to men in a fair competition, they typically complain about being discriminated against*
 - *Many women get a kick out of teasing men by seeming sexually available and then refusing male advances*
 - *Women, compared to men, tend to have a superior moral sensibility*
 - *Men should be willing to sacrifice their own well-being in order to provide financially for the women in their lives*
 - *Feminists are making unreasonable demands of men*

RAPE MYTH ACCEPTANCE ITEMS

- **Items are rated using the following scale: Strongly agree, agree, slightly disagree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, strongly disagree**
 - *If a woman is raped while she is drunk, she is at least somewhat responsible for letting things get out of control*
 - *Although most women wouldn't admit it, they generally find being physically forced into sex a real “turn on.”*
 - *If a woman is willing to “make out” with a guy, then it's no big deal if he goes a little further and has sex*
 - *Many women secretly desire to be raped*
 - *Most rapists are not caught by the police*
 - *If a woman doesn't physically fight back, you can't really say that it was rape*
 - *Men from nice middle-class homes almost never rape*
 - *Rape accusations are often used as a way of getting back at men*
 - *All women should have access to self-defense classes*
 - *It is usually only women who dress suggestively that are raped*
 - *If the rapist doesn't have a weapon, you can't call it a rape*
 - *Rape is unlikely to happen in the women's own familiar neighborhood*
 - *Women tend to exaggerate how much rape affects them*
 - *A lot of women lead a man on and then they cry rape*

RAPE MYTH ACCEPTANCE ITEMS, CONTINUED

- **Items are rated using the following scale: Strongly agree, agree, slightly disagree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, strongly disagree**
 - *It is preferable that a female police officer conduct the questioning when a woman reports a rape*
 - *A woman who “teases” men deserves anything that might happen*
 - *When women are raped, it is often because the way they said “no” was ambiguous*
 - *Men don’t usually intend to force sex on a woman, but sometimes they get too sexually carried away*
 - *A woman who dresses in skimpy clothes should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex*
 - *Rape happens when a man’s sex drive gets out of control*
 - *Men are never the victims of rape*
 - *A woman could never sexually assault a man because men are always interested in sex*
 - *It’s physically impossible for a woman to rape a man*